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ॐ नमो भगवते वासुदेवाय

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MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (Department of Heavy Industries) RESOLUTION TARIFFS

New Delhi, the 30th September 1957

No. 28(1)T.P./57.—The Tariff Commission has submitted its Report on the continuance of protection to the Plywood and Teachests Industry on the basis of an inquiry undertaken by it under Sections 11(e) and 13 of the Tariff Commission Act, 1951. Its recommendations are as follows:—

- (1) The protection to the plywood and teachests industry should be continued at the existing rate of protective duty of 35 per cent. *ad valorem* for a further period of three years ending 31st December, 1960.
- (2) Unless there are serious administrative difficulties Government should take necessary steps to increase the period of validity of import licences for wood and timber to one year.
- (3) Steps should be taken to prohibit the export of plywood panels (teachest, commercial and decorative) unless they conform to the specifications prescribed in the relevant I.S.I. standard and are also properly packed.
- (4) The capacity available for plywood teachests and commercial plywood in the country is adequate to meet any possible demand in the immediate future. It is, therefore, not necessary to allow any more new units to be established in the country. If, however, the demand oversteps production at any time, the existing uneconomic units should have priority to expand their capacities before a new unit is licensed.
- (5) The Indian Standards Institution should expedite its examination of the species of timber suitable for the manufacture of plywood teachests and final specifications should be laid down without delay.
- (6) Government should take steps to encourage the commercial production of suitable glues.
- (7) Arrangements should be made for bringing to the notice of overseas buyers the variety and the high quality of our plywood products by displaying them in our show rooms abroad and

in foreign fairs and exhibitions. Commercial and decorative plywood should be included in the schedule of items for export when negotiating trade agreements with other countries in the future.

- (8) Government should introduce a proper system of inspection of battens that are used by tea gardens and also assume powers to ban the use of panels and battens which have not been tested or which do not conform to the prescribed specifications for the packing of tea.
 - (9) The Tea Board should call for monthly returns in respect of plywood battens from tea gardens indicating their stocks, purchases and consumption.
 - (10) The Tea Board should institute a scheme of inspection of teacheest assembly in the gardens.
 - (11) Arrangements should be made for prophylactic treatment of timber from Andaman islands after felling and for painting of butt-ends so as to prevent the spread of borer and fungus attack and butt-end cracking.
 - (12) Government of India might consider the question of revising their prices of Andaman plywood timber to enable the Calcutta factories to obtain their requirements at prices comparable to those prevailing in the other regions of the country if the working of the Andaman forests as a whole shows profit. Arrangements for supply of timber from N.E.F.A. forests at reasonable prices should also be made without delay.
 - (13) Government should give their urgent and sympathetic consideration to the chartering of vessels for the transport of logs for plywood from Andamans, if it were not possible for the existing coastal vessels to carry this cargo.
 - (14) The consensus of opinion was that though the quality of domestic plywood, commercial as well as decorative, was satisfactory, the manufacturers have done little to popularise their products and educate the customers of the appropriate uses of the various types and grades. The manufacturers should establish better liaison with the consumers to popularise their products.
2. Government accept recommendation (1) and the necessary legislation will be undertaken in due course.
 3. Government have taken note of recommendation (2) and it will be considered along with other relevant factors while formulating the import policy from time to time.
 4. Government have also taken note of recommendations (3) to (11) and steps will be taken to implement them as far as possible.
 5. Recommendation (12) has been noted by Government for consideration.
 6. Government have taken note of recommendation (13) and will be prepared to consider sympathetically the possibility of implementing it.
 7. The attention of the manufacturers of plywood is invited to recommendation (14).

ORDER

Ordered that the Resolution be published in the *Gazette of India* and a copy of it be communicated to all concerned.

S. RANGANATHAN, Secy.